

CLAIMS

- 5 1. A method for displaying on a television apparatus, content information associated with peripheral device interconnected with the television apparatus via a digital serial bus, the method comprising:
 - 10 receiving, by the television apparatus, a user request to view content information associated with a selected peripheral device interconnected to the television apparatus via the digital serial bus;
 - obtaining, by the television apparatus, content information from the selected peripheral device regardless of whether the selected peripheral device is a currently selected input source for the television apparatus; and
 - 15 displaying, by the television apparatus, the received content information for the selected peripheral device.
2. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital serial bus is an IEEE 1394 compliant serial bus.
- 20 3. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
 - in response to a second user input,
 - obtaining, by the television apparatus, content information from a second selected peripheral device; and
 - displaying, by the television apparatus, the received content information of the second selected peripheral device.
- 25 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the content information comprises table of contents information for programs stored on a storage medium of the selected peripheral device.
- 30 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the table of contents information is displayed on the television apparatus on a per peripheral device basis.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

allowing by the television apparatus, a user to cycle through a loop of peripheral devices interconnected to the television apparatus.

5

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

allowing by the television apparatus, a user to manipulate the displayed content information in response to user input received by the television apparatus.

10 8. The method of claim 7, wherein manipulation includes moving through the content information, deleting the content information, and playing selected programs.

15 9. A method for displaying on a digital television apparatus, table of content information associated with a peripheral device interconnected with the television apparatus via an IEEE 1394 bus, the method comprising:

providing, on the digital television apparatus in response to a first user input to the digital television apparatus, a menu allowing a user to request viewing of table of content information of a selected peripheral device interconnected to the digital television apparatus via the IEEE 1394 bus, the option provided by the digital television apparatus regardless of whether the selected peripheral device is a currently selected input source for the digital television apparatus;

establishing, by the television apparatus, communication between the digital television apparatus and the selected peripheral device via the IEEE 1394 bus;

obtaining, by the digital television apparatus, table of contents information 25 associated with a storage medium of the selected peripheral device; and

displaying, by the digital television apparatus, the received table of contents information for the selected peripheral device.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

30 detecting connection of the selected peripheral device to the digital serial bus, and upon detection, obtaining the table of content information from the selected peripheral device.

11. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
in response to a second user input,
establishing communication between the digital television apparatus
5 and a second selected peripheral device via the 1394 serial bus;
obtaining by the digital television apparatus, table of contents
information associated with a storage medium of the second selected peripheral
device; and
displaying by the digital television apparatus, the table of contents
10 information from the second selected peripheral device.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the table of contents information of the selected
peripheral device includes one or more of title, time created, total track time, current
track time, artist, genre, and program description for each track of table of contents
15 data.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
allowing by the digital television apparatus, a user to cycle through a loop of
peripheral devices interconnected to the television apparatus via the 1394 serial bus.
20

14. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
allowing by the digital television apparatus, a user to manipulate the displayed
content data in response to user input received by the digital television apparatus
including moving through the table of contents information, deleting table of contents
25 information, and playing a selected program.

15. A digital television apparatus comprising:
(a) means for receiving a user request to view content information associated
with a selected peripheral device interconnected to the television apparatus via a
30 digital serial bus;
(b) means for obtaining content information from the selected peripheral
device regardless of whether the selected peripheral device is a currently selected

input source for the television apparatus; and

(c) means for displaying the received table of content information for the requested digital serial bus compliant peripheral device.

5 16. The digital television apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:

(e) means for allowing a user to cycle through a loop of peripheral devices interconnected on the digital serial bus for viewing of table of content information associated with a selected one of the peripheral devices.

10 17. The digital television apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:

(f) means for allowing a user to manipulate the displayed table of content information in response to user input received by the digital television apparatus.

15 18. The digital television apparatus of claim 17, wherein manipulation includes moving through the table of content information, deleting table of content information, and playing a selected program.